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A NAME FOR
GLAUCOPSYCHE LYGDAMUS BEHRII AUCT.,
NOT EDWARDS 1862

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F. M. Brown (Trans. amer. ent. Soc. 96:415-417:1970) has shown that the name *Lycaena behrii* Edwards 1862 pertains to *Glaucopsyche xerces* (Boisduval) 1852 and not to *G. lygdamus* (Doubleday) 1842. The way in which the name *behrii* came to be used erroneously for a moiety of the *lygdamus*-complex is discussed by Brown and need not be repeated here.

The misidentification of the central-coastal Californian subspecies of *lygdamus* as *behrii* has resulted in this familiar insect never having been given a name of its own. The purpose of this paper is to remedy this situation.

Glaucopsyche lygdamus incognitus Tilden, subsp. nov. Holotype male: Forewing 16.2 mm. Above: Cold light blue, with two iridescent overlays depending on angle at which the insect is viewed: one lavender or pale lilac, the other faintly greenish-blue. Wing veins outlined narrowly by light scales except at vein-ends which are darkened. Borders very dark, narrow (about 1 mm.), slightly wider at forewing apex and extending very narrowly down the forewing costa, and on hind wings to vein Rs.

Below: Pale gray, the wing bases plentifully clothed with pale bluish pubescence. Terminal line dark, complete. Forewing fringes faintly darkened at vein ends. Cell-end bar evident on both front and hind wings. Postbasal spots of hind wings present. Spots of postmedian band black, narrowly ringed with white, those of the forewing a bit larger than those of the hind wing.

Holotype male: Alum Rock Park, Santa Clara County, Calif., March 3, 1940, leg. J. W. Tilden. Type locality: same as above. The holotype is deposited in the collections of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, Calif.

Because this subspecies, though previously unnamed, is well known and represented in most collections, and its identity cannot be in doubt, only a holotype is designated. The name, *incognitus*, unknown, unrecognized, disguised, is given because this insect was called so long by the name of another.

Three other quite similar subspecies of *lygdamus* inhabit regions adjacent to or adjoining the range of *G. l. incognitus*, new subsp. These are *G. l. australis* Grinnell, to the south; *G. l. oro* Scudder, in the Rocky Mountains, and *G. l. columbia*, to the north and east.

P. l. australis averages slightly smaller than *incognitus* (forewing 14-15 mm.) and males are a slightly warmer blue above. Below, the ground color is a deeper gray. The spots of the postmedian band are very prominent on the forewing. Those of the hind wing are small, and often appear as white spots with small dark centers, giving this population a very distinctive appearance. As noted by Grinnell (1917) in the original description, these tendencies, though best marked in southern California, extend as far north as Monterey County.

Skinner (1917) states that Scudder described *oro* from Colorado as being larger than *behrii*, which to Skinner meant the insect here described as *incognitus*. But to Scudder, *behrii* presumably meant Edwards' original concept of *behrii*, which is *xerces* Boisduval. *Oro* averages smaller than most *incognitus*. The males are of a light, nearly sky blue above, and thinly scaled, so that the spots of the macular band can be seen from above. The spots are of medium size, about the same size on both front and hind wings, each outlined in white. The ground color of the underside is brownish gray, darker than that of the other populations under discussion.

When describing *columbia*, Skinner (op. cit.) chose Port Columbia, Washington, as type locality, but included material from "Olympia, Washington; Corfield, Vancouver; and Lake Tahoe, California". He characterized *columbia* as of a deeper blue, larger, the wing texture less delicate, as compared to other subspecies of *lygdamus*, and as having the spots larger than in

"*behri*" (= *incognitus*) but smaller than in *lygdamus*, and the underside lighter than that of *lygdamus*. The name *columbia* is applied at present to populations of *lygdamus* from the Sierra Nevada of California, north at least to southern British Columbia, west of the Rocky Mts. Over this extensive region, the populations of *lygdamus* are by no means homogeneous, and not all agree well with Skinner's description.

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